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Y.M of Frds for N.E.
Smithfield Monthly Mtg
First Day School Conference

1875

NEW ENGLAND YEARLY
MEETING OF FRIENDS

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Records
of
First Day School Conference
of
Smithfield Quarterly Meeting.

1875. - 1882

At a meeting of Friends interested in the holding of a Quarterly Conference by the First Day Schools of Smithfield Quarterly Meeting; held in Northbridge on 5th day, Fifth Mo. 13th 1875, an organization was effected and James S. Read was chosen Chairman and Wm C. Monroe, Secretary.

It was voted — That a committee of two from each school be chosen to awaken interest in the movement.

The following were elected members of the committee viz:

From Woonsocket	Laura Read.
	A. C. Monroe.
" Bolton	Thomas Wheeler.
	Joanna Kinnicutt
" Worcester	Susan A. Gifford.
	John B. Daniels.
" Northbridge	Abigail Wheeler
	Horace Greig.
" Uxbridge	Addie L. Farnum
	Gideon Aldrich

From Burrillville. Isaac Steere.
Avis Steere.
" Blackstone Maria Aldrich.
Wm Aldrich.
" Mansfield. Sarah W Burgess.
David B. Grover.

After some general remarks in regard to the best manner to proceed in the work, it was voted to adjourn, to meet in Bolton in 8th mo. next, at 7-30 P.M. on 4th day evening preceding the Quarterly Meeting.

Wm C. Monroe.

Northbridge.
5th Mo. 13th 1875.

Sec.y.

The first Quarterly Conference of the First Day Schools of Smithfield Quarterly Meeting was held in Bolton on 4th day evening 8th Mo. 11th 1875 at 7-30 P.M.

In consequence of the very severe rain storm of that night the meeting convened at the house of Jesse B. Wheeler and nearly forty people were present at the hour appointed.

The 34th Psalm was read by the Chairman and fervent prayers for the success of the First Day School work and the upbuilding of the Church followed.

The records of the preliminary meeting at Northbridge were read by the Secy. and their contents approved.

Reports from the various schools being next in order, were read so far as received, from which the following table has been prepared

	No of members,	average At.	No of classes.
Woonsocket	40	23	3
Bolton	56	35	5
Worcester	47	35	5
Northbridge	25	20	4
Uxbridge	23	20	2
Harrisville	40	27	3
Total	231	160	22

Blackstone reported no school and from Mansfield no statistics were received

The present Superintendents are as follows. viz.

Woonsocket	James S. Reed
Bolton	Thos. A. Wheeler
Worcester	Susan A. Gifford
Northbridge	Hiram White.
Uxbridge	Stanford Southwick
Harrisville	Charlotte D. Holmes
Mansfield	Sarah A. Burgess

A discussion of the reports followed their reading, in which incidents connected with the work in different places were related, and the hearts of all baptized into a feeling of tenderness, and an earnest desire for the prosperity of the cause.

Allen C. Thomas of Baltimore gave a very interesting account of Mission School work in that city and of the success attending it.

It seemed to be the burden of the Conference that our zeal in this work might increase, that every proper means might be used to awaken more interest in our schools, thus finally honoring the great name of our blessed Redeemer by increasing the number of those who will be privileged to receive "the white stone and the "new name written" and to sit down in His kingdom.

The general conference was continued, and the

Following choirs to perform each
a set of exercises for the next meeting, viz, Zacah Martin, Darcy Forbes,
Abel Gallup, Henry Babcock, and
Joseph Wheeler.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock P.M.
on 4th Day evening 11th inst 10th at
the Methodist Meeting House.

N. G. Ingraham

Sec'y.

The Second Quarterly Conference of Friendly School was held at Woonsocket 14th day evening 11th mo. 10th 1875. A severe rain caused it to be held at Richard Battey's house instead of at the meeting house as proposed.

A portion of Scripture was read by the Chairman and a short season of silence followed.

The Sec. being absent J. R. Marble was appointed Sec. for the evening.

The minutes of the Conference held at Bolton were read and accepted.

Lydia Haight, Abbie Battey & Reuben Aldrich were named by the Chair to nominate a committee of arrangements for the meeting to be held in Worcester.

Richard Battey & Thomas Wheeler were appointed to nominate a treasurer.

Verbal reports were made

from several of the schools.

Bolton sent a written report from which it appears that the whole no. of scholars is 61, average attendance 33, Over 21 years of age 25, under 21 – 36.

No statistics were received from the other schools, and Mr Bridge & Blackstone were without reports.

Most of the schools use the Berean lesson system. – Several are without organization.

Quite extended remarks followed.

It was moved to recommend to schools without organization, to organize without delay, as thereby their power for usefulness would be increased.

Very interesting remarks were made by Joel Beard concerning conferences held in Ohio, and their plan of holding teachers' meetings.

Sarah Otto read an entertaining and instructive [illegible]

The third Quarterly Conference of First day Schools was held at Friends meeting House Worcester, 4th day evening 2nd mo. 9th 1876.

In the absence of the president the meeting was called to order by J. R. Mabbs. Eben Hoxie was appointed president and J. R. Mabbs Sec. pro tem.

The exercises opened as usual with the reading of a portion of Scripture.

The minutes of the Conference held at Woonsocket ri the 11th mo were read and accepted.

Emily Chase read a very instructive Essay on "Individual Responsibility in the First day School, which showed much thought, and a general discussion of the subject followed, opened by Thomas Rhodes.

A verbal report from Worcester showed a state of affairs similar to that previously reported, except that the Bible class had been divided

into two classes. Written reports from all the other schools stated satisfactory progress.

The attendance during the last three months has not been as large owing to the sickness and weather, during the Winter.

The report from Mansfield stated that they were in need of a library, and it was recommended by the Conference that money be raised to help them supply themselves with suitable books.

At the close of the meeting a small sum was collected and sent to them for that purpose.

Abigail Wheeler, Edwin Fowler, Abbie Batty, Hannah Aldrich, Luther Wheeler, Sarah Swift and Jesse B. Wheeler were appointed a committee to arrange for the Conference to be held at Northbridge 4th day evening 5th mo. 10th 1876. After a short

season of silent devotion the meeting adjourned.

Joseph R. Marble

Rec. Sec. tem.

The fourth Quarterly Conference of First day Schools was held at Center Ridge on the morning of 5mo 10th 1876 The 2nd Psalm was read and earnest petitions ascended to the throne of Grace for divine guidance in the various transactions of the Conference and for the promotion of the cause of Christ. The time having expired for which the Officers were elected, a committee of nine was appointed to report names for the ensuing year which are as follows

Willis C. Jones President
Abbie L. Keller Secretary
Exton, Caroline Treasurer

The preceding minute was read and accepted Written reports were read from Bolton Woonsocket and verbal reports where any member of the school was present Worcester reported as

change of superintendent. At Sea
Cliff. A letter was read from
Mountfield stating that they had
taken from the interest annu-
ities of the Sea Cliff school and in addition to the
sum sent them for books an
equal sum was given by their
own members. Miss Ada Rowe
spoke next upon from Provi-
dence. An interesting essay
was read by Abigail Wheeler from
"How may we be successful teach-
ers of the children". A lively
discussion which was
the following "How shall attend
to Evil. Why Teachers" and "How
should Children be Pun-
ished" Adjourned. Ann
Marsh was made by Abigail Thom
as, and an account of the ex
ercises at a later. The conclud-

ing business of the Conference was
to adjourn a committee to make
arrangements
Harris H Wheeler
Howard R Tucker
Sarah Wor-
-cester Moody
Secretary Gifford
after which the Conference ad-
journed to meet at Station
the 9th of Dec. 1911 at 7½ P. M.

Abbie L. Kelley

Secy

tending it
An original copy and hymn were read.
Four members of the second at Dalton
added to the interest of the conference
by receiving relative hymns.
A committee consisting of
Asbel Parmenter, Abbie Upham
Brown & Ward, Willie W. Hunt
and Orlando Bailey was appointed
to make all necessary arrangements for the
[illegible] of the
[illegible] at 11 o'clock A.M. After
noon session [illegible] and
prayer the meeting adjourned.

Abbie Le. Kelley

Secy

Abbie L. Kelley

Secy

Once again we were permitted to enjoy a Quarterly First Day School Conference. — and again went out to our labor with renewed courage. A season of waiting upon the Lord followed the reading of the Scriptures We had with us active laborers in the Lords vine yard. Who, as way opened, gave us words of encouragement and council. An essay by Augustus Jones, blackboard lesson by Richard Gifford, and a Question Drawer, conducted by William Jacobs was listened to with great interest and we trust profit. A committee consisting of Salome Wheeler, Hannah D. Aldrich, Daniel Wheeler, Cedric Farnum, Alice Cranston Henry D. Swift, David B. Wheeler was appointed to make preparation for the Conference to be held at Northbridge 2 mo. 9th 1877

which the meeting adjourned.

Sec'y Abbie L. Kelley

The Quarterly Conference was again held at Northbridge June 28th 1847 The forenoon by reading the 4th chap of Hebrews by the Chairman after which followed prayer and a season of silent waiting before the Lord. The first business of the Conference was to appoint a committee of six to present names for officers the ensuing year the time having expired for which they were chosen. The names taken were

Joseph R. Marble President
Alfred E Wheeler Secretary
Esther Osborne Treasurer

A committee of six was then chosen to arrange for the next Conference to be held at Uxbridge Sept 18th consisting of the following names. David B. Wheeler Sarah P. Taft Joseph H. Simmons Lois M. Stevens Sarah Marble & Jennie Marble.

A very interesting essay was read by Martha C. Mowry of the 11th chapter of Hebrews and Brethren were invited to meet at [illegible] on the way to Uxbridge and [illegible] and [illegible]

shall be shown as a subject that was
not interested in the subscription as it
was proposed to be presented for discus-
sion before the next Conference.
I see a short devotional hour the next
A.M. is announced to meet at Bolton at 9 o'clock.
Reports from Woonsocket, Bolton & Burrillville
were read.

Addie E. Howe.

Sec'y.

This Sunday Conference was once again
held at Bolton Sthurs 2 P.M.
Opened as usual with the scriptures
and prayer. We then listened to a Selection
by Addie E Wheeler. Alice A. Wheeler. Ada Berry.
& Hattie H. White, followed by Recitations
& Songs by a few of our young friends.
The records of the last Conference were read and
the usual subjects were attended to. Reports
were then read from Worcester, Northbridge
Bolton, Boylston & Mansfield, with a verbal
report from Newton. The names of William
E Howe, James Reed, Percy Wilbur, Oscar J
Howe, Melissa Clark and Addie Farmer
were then proposed to become members of
the Conference. The Secretary was directed to
write. Sixty letters during the month in which
a deep interest was manifested for a renewed
interest in the Sabbath School work.
A Circular by the Committee on Bible
Services at Petersham was then read.
The subject How shall we show as a
Church that we are interested in

the absentees were very ably addressed by Thomas B. Nichols, Susan A. Gifford, David B. Baker, Jesse B. Wheeler, Joseph R. Marble, Lydia Wright and others.

After a devotional silence the meeting adjourned to meet at Nantucket 11th mo 7th at 7 o'clock.

Addie E. Wheeler

Sec'y

The Quarterly Conference of First Day Schools met 11mo 12th 1872. After the devotional exercises by the choir we enjoyed a short season of devotional silence. Then proceeded to the reading of the minutes of the last meeting which were accepted. Reports were received from Bolton, Boylston, Worcester, & Northbridge.

Sarah B. Gould, Hervey J. Swift

Abbie S. Kelly & Reuben C. Storrow appointed a committee to arrange for the next conference to be held in the 2nd mo.

Rebecca Smiley & Thomas Batty gave brief lessons upon the duty of Sunday-school teachers very interesting and instructive.

Remarks were made by Thomas Stow of Framingham upon the good Sabbath schools and also by George Dillingham. Rebecca Smiley and others spoke of the benefits derived from holding teachers meetings.

After which the meeting adjourned to meet with the Worcester 2nd mo 13th 1873 at Worcester 2½ O'clock.

Abbie S. Kelly

Time on its ceaseless flight brought us to the date at which the Sabbath School Conference was adjourned. We accordingly met in that capacity at Worcester 2nd Mo 2nd

The meeting was opened by reading from the Scriptures and prayer. After a short silence we proceeded to the reading of the minutes of the last meeting which were accepted.

Reports were received and read from Worcester, Woonsocket, Burrillville, Uxbridge & Bolton. From Mansfield we heard through Jane Stone who had recently visited there, that their school had been in a very discouraging condition, but by the efforts of the agent of the Yearly Meeting's committee, Harriet B. Jones, the school was better organized and set at work.

The Smithbridge school reported by George Dillwyn Hoag as being in a low state as to attendance and interest, but in a prosperous condition. The Committee was directed to arrange for an appointment

ing at Northbridge. Miss Sabina Wheeler-
Shulpa C. Wheeler. Duncan H. Aldrich.
Sarah J. Sargent.

Remarks by Miller Jay.
in which he stated could not be but
that they are ready to do the work the
Lord had for them to do. Said there was a
old school and there ought to be a free
church. Rebecca Smiley spoke very
earnestly to the point of holiness
search and study of the scriptures.

Martha Jay gave a letter of her
presence as a believer of the children
in N. Br. The house having invited me
adjourned to meet again with Northbridge
6 mo 4th 1878. at 2½ o'clock.

Addie E. Wheeler
Sec.

Bolton, 8th. mo. 7th., 1878.

The Conference was opened by the reading of the 24th. Psalm, followed by vocal prayer. The minute of the last Conference was then read. It being proposed at the last Conference that representatives be sent to the Conference in future from each school, some of the schools attended to the matter; but no representatives were present except those from Woonsocket and Bolton. Those from Uxbridge were prevented from attending by the illness of a friend.

Written reports were received from all our Bible-schools except Uxbridge, of which we had a verbal report.

Alice L. Wheeler and Ada Berry, pupils of Bolton school, favored us with recitations which showed good taste and painstaking on the part of the pupils and their teachers. A practical essay by David B. Wheeler of Bolton was read, closing with the question "Is the attendance of the Bible-school a duty devolving upon

all Christians?" — on which some interesting and suitable remarks were made.

The following names were then proposed as a committee to prepare for the next Conference.

Melissa Clark. Sarah Marble.
Annie Thayer James L. Read
Sylvester Aldrich.

The hour having arrived for us to separate, we adjourned ~~sine die~~ purposing to meet in Pawtucket, in 11th mo. next.

Addy L. Farnum
Secretary.

Woonsocket, R. I.

11th mo. 13th, 1878

The chairman of the Conference, Henry D. Smith, being absent, Chas. S. Read was elected chairman for the evening.

The 1st Psalm was read, followed by vocal prayer. The report of the last Conference was read and approved.

Written reports from all our Bible-schools, except Bolton, were received and read. Representatives were appointed, and were present with reports from Burrillville, Woonsocket, Uxbridge and Northbridge. The executive committee arranged for this Conference a programme which consisted of a number of practical questions, the discussion of which gave us many useful hints as to the conducting of our Bible-school work; — also a Bible class of children, conducted by Martha Jay, which was listened to with interest and satisfaction.

The following were appointed a committee to prepare for our next Confer-

ence. — Reuben Bolton, Henry D. Swift.
Timothy T. Earle. Lassie Earle.
Abigail B. Wheeler.

The Conference was closed with vocal prayer, and we separated, purposing to meet next in Worcester, in the 2d. mo., 1879.

Eddy L. Harmon.
Secretary.

Worcester 27th Jan 12th 1842.

Conference met according to appointment.

The secretary being absent Wm C. Nowell was chosen secretary for the meeting. The meeting was opened with reading a portion of the Scriptures, followed by prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Reports were received and read from the Schools. Brethren Hall & Howard & Brother Bemis visited each school present.

Representatives were present from most of the schools. Brethren Hyde & Jones and Thomas B Mitchell from Maine who are very much interested in the Bible school work. They gave us much good advice and encouragement in the work. Listened to an interesting account of the commencement of a Bible school in Hopkinton R. I. by Celeste J Watkins showing the result of patience and perseverance in a good cause.

The following were appointed a committee to [illegible]

Addie E. Wheeler
Secretary Pro tem.

Northbridge, Mass.
5th mo. 7th, 1879.

The Bible-school Conference met according to adjournment. The 92d Psa. was read, followed by silent and vocal prayer. The report of the last Conference was read and approved. Written reports were received and read from the schools at Uxbridge, Northbridge and Bolton, and verbal reports were given of those at Brownsocket, Burrillville and Worcester. Representatives were present from Brownsocket, Uxbridge, Northbridge and Bolton. A Bible lesson on the subject of Bible study was given by Abby Batten. Remarks of general interest to those who have the welfare of Bible-schools at heart were made by Ellen Farr, David Babcock and Edward C. Sawyer. A committee was appointed to prepare for the next Conference; viz. Joanna Kimmens, Edward Batten

cock, Adelaide Abell and Hattie Aldrich. The time having expired for which the chairman and Secretary were appointed, Oscar Hazen was elected chairman and Edna Fellow Secretary for the ensuing year. Feeling that we had passed a profitable evening, and grateful for the privilege of meeting with so many, the Conference was adjourned to meet at Paterson 8th mo. Sept.

Adeline L. Farnum, Secretary.

Bolton, Mass. 8th. mo., 3th., 1879.

The Conference met according to adjournment. The 55th. Chapter of Isaiah was read by the chairman, after which there was a short devotional silence.

The records of the last Conference were read and approved. Written & verbal reports were received from most of the schools, and representatives were present from some of them.

Very interesting remarks were made by Hon. P. Angell of R. I., Bro. P. Boyce of Lynn and B. Fen. Cecil of Maine.

The following were appointed a committee to arrange for the next Conference; Laura Read, Abbie Stubbs, Sarah Marble and Sylvester Aldrich. The Conference then adjourned to meet at Woonsocket on the 11th. of 12th. mo. next.

Edna Kelley,
Sec'y.

Woonsocket, R. I.
11th. mo. 12th., 1879.

The Conference met according to adjournment. The eighty-fourth Psalm was read, followed by devotional silence and vocal prayer. The report of the last Conference was read and approved. Written reports were received from Mansfield, Woonsocket, Uxbridge, Worcester and Bolton; and verbal reports were given of Russellville and Northbridge schools. Delegates to attend the Conference were appointed by all the schools except Russellville and Worcester, and were present with two exceptions.

An address of welcome was given by Prof. James Bushee. The question then read for discussion was How shall we impart religious instruction to the young? opened by Jem. Thompson who said that some one had remarked that by their practice many seemed to translate "Feed my sheep," or "Feed my lambs" into "Feed my camel-opards," and accordingly placed the food very high. The Spirit taught simples and

"the common people heard him gladly."
Some think that have no natural gifts for teaching, but practice, study and prayer will cultivate a gift. Harriet Jones said if we want the children converted love them into it; and not be afraid to teach the little children the doctrine of the atonement; they can understand it. Rebecca Smiley and others said be willing to pray with the scholars as well as for them. Calvin Goddard said work as God would have you work, not as some one else works. James Arnold endorsed this remark; we should use our own senses. Mrs. Charles would not spiritualize the Bible so much, but teach the children that it means just what it says.

Prof. James Bushee said simplify the teaching of that most important of all instruction, the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Many other valuable ideas were given us, which we hope will be made practical in the Bible-school work. A committee was then appointed to prepare for the next conference; viz. F. R. Joseph R. Marble,

Sarah F. Swift, James G. Arnold, Eben Hoxie and Abbie Breed.

After a short devotional silence the conference adjourned to meet in Worcester in the 2d. mo., 1880.

Adeline L. Farnum,
Secretary pro tem.

Worcester, 21st Sept. 1868 [illegible]

Our Lord's Conference was held according to appointment. After the reading of Scriptures and a short devotional prayer, a letter was read from each school, showing a report of progress and benefit derived from the Conference and yet, God knows Recitations for Capital Cards and a Prize by Sarah Marble were declared to be read. After which the services were closed by the Recession of Rifle School [illegible] The prizes of Helene L. Sawyer, Charles Douglas, Palmer Shelley, and Lovett H. Steele were then awarded and accepted to operate preparations for the next Conference, to be held at Rothesay, the 29th inst. Day evening; 6th inst at 7½ o'clock.

Yr. Obdt. Servt.
Sec.

Smithbridge, 5th mo. 12th 1870

The Quarterly Conference was held at Smithbridge and opened at the meeting house by the 6 hour meeting adjourned for dinner.

After reading a scripture selection and devotional service, the reports from the different schools were called for.

Mary Hill & Broad of Horsell and Addie L. Fairman on which all were interested. Queries were then read by different members of the schools present, when and and opened the meeting upon them, whereupon one who had not visited his or her meeting to the discussion, speaking the meeting one of the most interesting that has been held. The condition of Friends generally was acknowledged. The time appointed for which the Quarterly and Preparative meetings were appointed, for each of the

Hattie Aldrich were appointed to fill the vacancy, and the names of David Whalen, Alice Whalen, Eddie Babcock, & Sarah Whalen were proposed to make preparations for the Conference to be held the evening before the Quarterly Meeting at 7½ o'clock.

H. Eldon Tefft
Secretary

Feb. 11 1880

The Quarterly Conference of First-day Schools met according to appointment. In the absence of the Secretary Sec. C. Monroe was appointed pro tem.

The meeting was opened by reading a portion of Scripture followed by vocal prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted. Reports from Hartsville, Hardscrabble, Burrillville, and Lime were received and read, the also Friend Pa a verbal report of the school at Northbridge.

"An Question" was then taken up, interest and order in our First-day schools" was discussed. Instructive remarks upon this subject were made by Thomas Jolley Sec. Pa. Monroe and others.

We also listened with interest to recitations of poems by several of the children.

Many visits of Scotland upon persons were addressed by Friends principally to the children showing the love of Christ

Woonsocket 11mo 11 1880

The Quarterly Conference of First-day Schools met according to adjournments. On the absence of the chairman James S. Read was appointed. The meeting was opened by reading a portion of scripture followed by devotional silence and vocal prayer. Reports were read from all the schools except Mansfield. After the business exercises we listened to very interesting papers by Lucas A. Aldrich and Addy E. Farnum.

Several questions had been prepared by the committee, upon which very interesting remarks were made by William Jay, Augusta Bailey, Caroline Earle and others. It was advised that we improve upon the younger children the importance of attending our First-day meetings and that it should not be neglected by them for our Bible schools as to be considered of minor importance, as the mind always retains early impressions.

We appointed the following committee to arrange for the next Conference.

John. Daniels Caroline Earle Eben
Hoxie and Sarah J. Swift. after which
the Conference adjourned to meet in Worcester
the 9th of 2nd mo 1881

Hattie S. Aldrich,
Secretary.

Worcester 2nd mo. 9th/1881

Our Quarterly conference of First-day schools met according to adjournment.

After reading a portion of scripture, followed by a short devotional prayer, the reports of the different schools were read. The Questions prepared by the committee of arrangements were presented for general discussion. The first question, "What is the work of the First day school conference," was opened by Eben Hoyle, William Thompson and others following. It was advised that we keep and compare our reports, and that each school have a record kept by its secretary, also that blanks should be prepared and sent by the secretary to each school to be filled out and returned. These to be recorded by the secretary of the conference. Abel Monroe was appointed to act with the standing committee upon this. The names of delegates were then called, all but two were present.

The following were appointed a committee

to arrange for the next conference.
Dale-he C. Wheeler. Oscar F. Morse
Collins Wheeler. Adeline L. Farnum
Abagail Wheeler.

The conference then adjourned to meet in Northbridge the evening before Quarterly Meeting.

Hattie B. Aldrich.
Secretary.

Northbridge 5 mo. 1881

Our conference met according to adjournment. In the absence of the chairman Adeline L. Farnum was appointed. After the usual devotional exercises the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Reports were received and read from Northbridge, Uxbridge and Woonsocket. Verbal reports were given from several of the other schools.

The subject of First day school work was again received. Wm Pennington of Indiana thought we needed more earnest co-operative workers, that it must fall on the teachers and officers. They should work directly upon it, each understanding the other, the one aim being the conversion of souls.

Again the question of our libraries was ~~received~~ brought up. It was urged that we fill up and sustain our libraries. Several methods

were suggested. The only practical one, that we take up a collection for the Northbridge library, was quickly acted upon.

The following were appointed a committee to arrange for the next conference.

Adelaide Wheeler — Thomas A. Wheeler
Sarah Wheeler — Alice Wheeler

The conference appointed Jennie Allyn chairman and Lorcas A. Aldrich secretary for the ensueing year.

The conference adjourned to meet in Bolton in 8th mo. the evening before Quarterly meeting.

Hattie O. Aldrich.
Secretary.

Bolton 8th Mo. 15th 1881.

The Conference met according to appointment. The Chairman Isaac Sharp John Stephenson appointed Secretary for the occasion.

Reports of the Meetings were read & revised by Friends.

In consequence of the Yearly Meeting Book being forgotten, the report of Sufferings was not read.

Reports were received from Uxbridge, Southbridge, Worcester, and Bolton were received and read. We also had a verbal account from Worcester. Nothing received from Mansfield or Brookfield.

Delegates to attend the Conference were appointed by all the Schools from which we received reports, and were present with two exceptions.

Very interesting remarks were made by several present.

It was recommended that we do not confine ourselves to mere statistics in our Sabbath School reports, but speak more fully of the interest in, and the progress of the school.

It was moved that each Supt. keep a list of names and residences of scholars, to better enable them to visit and interest scholars in the Sabbath School.

The following committee was appointed to arrange for the next Conference;

Rev. C. Wynne, Oscar Morse, Wm. Ulrich, Sarah Wintle.

After a short devotional silence followed by vocal prayer, the Conference adjourned, purposing to meet in Wadsworth in 11th Mo. next, the evening before Quarterly meeting at 7 o'clock.

Signed H. Adams, Sec.

Worcester 11th Mo. 9th 1881.

The Quarterly Conference of First-day Schools met according to adjournment. The fifteenth chapter of John was read followed by vocal prayer.

The Report of last Conference was read and approved.

Written reports were received from Worcester, Mt. Pleasant, Northbridge, Worcester and Bolton; and verbal accounts were given of Mansfield and Smithville.

Delegates were appointed by the different schools and were present with more or less interest.

The questions prepared by the Committee of Arrangements, were presented for discussion.

The first question; What should be the chief aim of the First-day School? was freely discussed, and the same thought seemed to be the burden of all hearts, that the

chief aim should be to glorify God by bringing souls to Christ, whether Elder or younger, for all are alike precious in His sight.

Many interesting remarks were made upon other questions which were brought before the Conference. A committee was then appointed to prepare for the next Conference, viz. John Metcalf, Joseph Marble, Jr., Jerome Sayer, Sarah Swift.

Adjourned to meet in Worcester 2nd Mon. next the evening before Quarterly Meeting.

Lucas H. Aldrich
Secretary.

Worcester, 1st mo. 8th 1882

The conference of First-day schools met according to adjournment. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved. The committee appointed at the last meeting to prepare a portion of chapter 2 of the Discipline, relating to the subject of the Bible conference, was discharged, and the report, which was made, on the ground, that it was not a full report, was referred to the next conference. Reports were read from the schools in Worcester, Salem, Nantucket and Newbury.

Frank Bell read an instructive selection from Isaac Sharpless' Quarterly on "Quakerism".

The first question, "How can teachers best perform their duties to their classes?" was given by Samuel Rodman. He thought the teacher should be fully prepared, should study the lesson diligently with the helps, be prompt and regular in attendance and study the individual needs of each scholar. Others spoke upon this question showing the need of the teacher's being prepared before entering the class. The teaching should be simple and earnest from a pure and loving heart.

The second question "Is a Bible class conducive

of older and younger persons how shall the teacher promote an interest in and love for the study of the Bible." He said he would like to discuss these two phases of the subject with all. The younger members might look out the topics and historical facts, while the older ones might give the spiritual part.

Harriet St. John of Akron read a practical paper on "The Teacher Training," explaining fully the first question under discussion, the duties of the teacher to the class. He should carry the lesson in his mind all the week, memorize the whole verses and golden texts. Many of the verses that he would hereby notice upon reading would develop into rare gems. The teacher should adapt the seed to the soil. He should take Christ as the great example and strive to teach as he taught.

The last question under discussion "How can the benefits of the conference be best extended to the school within its limits" was given by Orin Metcalf. He reviewed the record of the work already done and urged that more be undertaken. Thought the interest in our schools should be

sustained by increasing and interesting our libraries and encouraging lectures, discussions and temperance meetings. Then we should act upon the result of the conference, and establish a system to promote the work. That we have [illegible] system and conduct the most effectual work in temperance matters in our state and resolve that a committee be appointed to draw up a constitution. The conference appointed the following a committee to consider the matter and if they deem advisable to draw up the constitution and report at the next meeting

Richard Salter John Metcalfe Oscar Morse.
Salome Wheeler Eben Hodie Jessie F. Wheeler
James Read Charles Inman.

After remarks upon Sabbath school work by John Timmington the following committee were appointed to arrange for the next conference Salome Wheeler, Abigail Wheeler, Adeline E. Farnum and Charles Inman.

The conference adjourned to meet at Smithbridge at such time as may be convenient by the executive committee of the district

Hattie E. Albro
Secretary pro tem